

**INCIDENT MANAGEMENT SITUATION REPORT  
MONDAY, APRIL 14, 2003 – 1000 MDT  
NATIONAL PREPAREDNESS LEVEL 2**

**CURRENT SITUATION:**

Initial attack activity was light nationally, with 303 new fires reported April 11<sup>th</sup> through April 13<sup>th</sup>. Ten new large fires were reported, two in the Eastern Area, seven in the Southern Area, and one in the Southwest Area. Seven large fires were contained, one in the Eastern Area, four in the Southern Area, and two in the Northern Rockies Area. Very high to extreme fire indices were reported in Arizona, New Mexico, Colorado, Minnesota, and Missouri.

COLUMBIA RESPONSE, Federal Emergency Management Agency. A FEMA Emergency Operations Center is established in Lufkin, Texas. A Type 1 Incident Management Team (Bennett) is assigned in Palestine, Texas. Four Type 2 Incident Management Teams (Crisman, Gray, Morcum and Raley) are assigned in Longview, Nacogdoches, Corsicana, and Hemphill, Texas. Forty-eight agencies are cooperating in the search and collection of shuttle materials. Approximately 80 percent of the current assigned area, or 506,202 acres, has been searched.

NEWCASTLE, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, USDA. State and Federal personnel have been mobilized in response to the outbreak of the Exotic Newcastle Disease. They are working in support of the USDA APHIS operation under a Unified Command. Support operations are being conducted in Arizona, California, and Nevada.

**EASTERN AREA LARGE FIRES:**

CHIPPEWA PRAIRIE, Minnesota Department of Natural Resources. The fire is 2 miles north of Appleton, MN. Aerial resources aided in suppression efforts. Fire will be closely monitored during period of high winds expected today.

CARIBOU FIRE, Minnesota Department of Natural Resources. The fire is approximately 30 miles northwest of Roseau, MN and is burning in upland and lowland grass. No further information was received.

RED LAKE 304, Red Lake Agency, BIA. This fire is located 25 miles northwest of Red Lake, MN and is burning in tall grass. Twenty foot flames lengths were observed at the head of the fire. Personnel are conducting burnout operations.

GULLY FIRE, Minnesota Department of Natural Resources. This fire is 4 miles south of Gully, MN. The fire continues to be very active.

RED LAKE 232, Red Lake Agency, BIA. The fire is located 25 miles northwest of Red Lake, MN and is backing in grass.

INCIDENT NAME	ST	UNIT	SIZE	% CTN	EST CTN	TOTL PERS	CRW	ENG	HELI	STRC LOST	\$\$\$ CTD
CHIPPEWA PRAIRIE	MN	MNS	2,500	80	UNK	30	0	12	0	0	NR
CARIBOU FIRE	MN	MNS	12,680	95	UNK	0	0	0	0	0	4K
RED LAKE 304	MN	RLA	7,620	75	UNK	5	0	2	0	0	3K
GULLY FIRE	MN	MNS	2,100	50	UNK	4	0	2	0	0	NR
RED LAKE 232	MN	RLA	1,800	85	UNK	13	0	4	1	0	5K
RED LAKE 257	MN	RLA	34,560	100	---	10	0	1	1	0	35K

### SOUTHERN AREA LARGE FIRES:

MISSION FIRE, Oklahoma Division of Forestry. This fire is 14 miles southeast of Stillwell, OK. The fire is burning actively in hardwood logging slash. Terrain is hampering containment efforts.

WOLFE PLACE FIRE, Oklahoma Division of Forestry. This fire is 12 miles northeast of Westville, OK. The fire made several significant runs and is burning very hot in young hardwood timber stands. Some spotting was observed up to 75 yards ahead of the fire.

CHICKEN RANCH, Oklahoma Division of Forestry. This fire is 3 miles northwest of Buffalo Valley, OK. The fire is burning in ice damaged hardwood and pine timber. No further information was received.

DEAD COW, Oklahoma Division of Forestry. This fire is 6 miles southeast of Blanco, OK. The fire is burning in rangeland brushes, scrub brush, and scattered pine timber. No further information was received.

INCIDENT NAME	ST	UNIT	SIZE	% CTN	EST CTN	TOTL PERS	CRW	ENG	HELI	STRC LOST	\$\$\$ CTD
MISSION FIRE	OK	OKS	240	85	4/14	2	0	1	0	0	NR
WOLFE PLACE FIRE	OK	OKS	200	95	4/14	2	0	1	0	1	NR
CHICKEN RANCH	OK	OKS	200	90	4/14	8	0	4	0	0	NR
DEAD COW	OK	OKS	750	95	UNK	8	0	4	0	0	NR
SPAVINAW CREEK FIRE	OK	OKS	200	100	---	2	0	1	0	0	NR
EARBOB ROAD FIRE	OK	OKS	160	100	---	2	0	1	0	0	NR
NORTH LAKE FIRE	FL	FLS	450	100	---	5	1	1	0	0	NR
MALLOY HOLLOW FIRE	OK	OKS	160	100	---	2	0	1	0	0	NR

OKS = Oklahoma Division of Forestry

### NORTHERN ROCKIES AREA LARGE FIRES:

McCLEAN BOTTOMS, North Dakota State. The fire is located about 10 miles southeast of Bismarck, ND. No further information was received

INCIDENT NAME	ST	UNIT	SIZE	% CTN	EST CTN	TOTL PERS	CRW	ENG	HELI	STRC LOST	\$\$\$ CTD
McCLEAN BOTTOMS	ND	NDS	4,500	75	UNK	101	0	27	2	0	80K
CHANDLER	MT	SOS	320	100	---	0	0	0	0	0	.4K

SOS = Southern Land Office, Montana Dept. of Natural Resources & Conservation

## SOUTHWEST AREA LARGE FIRES:

BORDER, Safford Field Office, BLM. The fire is south of Palominas, AZ. The fire was observed burning actively during mid day operations and heavy mop up operations continue.

INCIDENT NAME	ST	UNIT	SIZE	% CTN	EST CTN	TOTL PERS	CRW	ENG	HELI	STRC LOST	\$\$\$ CTD
BORDER	AZ	SAD	800	75	UNK	47	0	10	0	0	NR

### OUTLOOK:

**Red Flag Warnings:** Western and southern Florida for low humidity.  
 Southern Missouri for high wind and low humidity.  
 Western Oklahoma and northern Texas for high wind and low humidity.  
 South-central Minnesota for high wind and low humidity.  
 North-central and northeast Wisconsin for high wind and low humidity.  
 Northern Michigan for high wind and low humidity.

**Fire Weather Watches:** West and central Wisconsin for high wind and low humidity this afternoon.  
 North-central Texas for high wind on Tuesday.  
 Northern and central New Mexico for high wind and low humidity this afternoon.

**Weather Discussion:** A high pressure ridge is dominating the central and eastern states, bringing dry and warm weather over the entire southeast from eastern Texas to the Carolinas. Strengthening low pressure systems in the north-central Plains along with a dry air mass will produce low humidity and high wind from central New Mexico north into portions of the Great Lakes states. A trough of low pressure will produce widespread showers over the west, with heavy snow in the southern Sierras.

Geographic Area Weather	High Temperatures	Minimum Relative Humidity	Wind
<b>EASTERN AREA</b> Partly to Mostly Sunny over the Great Lakes and Big Rivers Compacts ahead of a low forecast to move east into the Upper Mississippi Valley	78 to 88	20 to 30%	South to southwest wind 20 to 30 mph with gusts up to 35 mph
<b>SOUTHWEST AREA</b> Partly cloudy and windy.	50s and 60s mountains, 70s and 80s lower elevations.	10-30%, with drier readings eastern half of area.	S-SW 10-25 mph, with gusts to 35 mph.



[www.nifc.gov/sixminutes/index.j.asp](http://www.nifc.gov/sixminutes/index.j.asp)

## FIRE SHELTER SITE SELECTION

The primary objective of every operational fire plan is to keep firefighters out of an entrapment situation. However, firefighters must always be prepared for the possibility of having to deploy their fire shelters. The key to a successful fire shelter deployment is proper site selection. Consider the following when discussing shelter deployment site selection:

- Pick a site that will keep the fire shelter away from flames and convective heat. It should also limit the amount of radiant heat that reaches the shelter
- Select an area with no fuels, or if that isn't possible, select a site in light fuels such as grass where the flaming front passes quickly. Clear the site to mineral soil if at all possible. If time is critical, pick a site with the least fuel.
- Pick natural firebreaks (e.g., wet meadows; creek beds; wet, swampy areas; large rockslides with no fuels). Note that rough terrain in rockslides may make obtaining an effective seal impossible, thus making the site unacceptable.
- Areas on the lee side of ridge tops and knobs can be effective deployment sites because convective heat and flames will generally continue rising above them.
- Wide areas that have been cleared of fuel such as dozer lines or roads can be effective deployment sites. In larger areas, don't let trucks, dozers, and other equipment occupy the best deployment sites.
- Flat areas on slopes, such as benches or road cuts, offer some protection from radiant and convective heat. Level areas like these can keep you below the path of flames and convective heat. The ditch on the inside of the road, if free of fuel, can improve the effectiveness of deploying in a road cut.
- Avoid areas that tend to funnel smoke, flames, and hot gases.
  - Narrow draws
  - Chutes
  - Chimneys
  - Saddles on ridge tops
- Know how long it takes to reach your safety zone. Crew supervisors should identify and communicate likely escape routes and safety zones.

**FIRES AND ACRES FOR APRIL 11<sup>TH</sup> - APRIL 13<sup>TH</sup>:**

AREA		BIA	BLM	FWS	NPS	ST/OT	USFS	TOTAL
Alaska	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Northwest	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Northern California	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Southern California	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Northern Rockies	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Eastern Great Basin	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Western Great Basin	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Southwest	FIRES	1	1				1	3
	ACRES	5	850				0	855
Rocky Mountain	FIRES		1			3		4
	ACRES		0			4		4
Eastern Area	FIRES	42			1	119	9	171
	ACRES	21,198			40	15,027	6	36,271
Southern Area	FIRES	3				112	10	125
	ACRES	148				2,653	111	2,912
TOTAL	FIRES	46	2	0	1	234	20	303
	ACRES	21,351	850	0	40	17,684	117	40,042

**FIRES AND ACRES YEAR-TO-DATE:**

AREA		BIA	BLM	FWS	NPS	ST/OT	USFS	TOTAL
Alaska	FIRES				1	48		49
	ACRES				432	219		651
Northwest	FIRES	3		1			2	6
	ACRES	1		1			0	2
Northern California	FIRES				4	90	15	109
	ACRES				2,210	19	5	2,234
Southern California	FIRES	1	4			225	51	281
	ACRES	0	1			21	16	38
Northern Rockies	FIRES	30	1			7	5	43
	ACRES	197	0			3,855	1,250	5,302
Eastern Great Basin	FIRES		9			4	1	14
	ACRES		7			20	0	27
Western Great Basin	FIRES		3					3
	ACRES		2					2
Southwest	FIRES	14	16	3		133	43	209
	ACRES	39	2,173	274		4,069	57	6,612
Rocky Mountain	FIRES	4	5	1	1	39	4	54
	ACRES	9	0	203	200	223	15	650
Eastern Area	FIRES	402		9	11	1,420	145	1,987
	ACRES	46,875		1,385	439	45,784	2,013	96,496
Southern Area	FIRES	69		6	9	7,321	225	7,630
	ACRES	7,616		755	705	108,118	5,746	122,940
TOTAL	FIRES	523	38	20	26	9,287	491	10,385
	ACRES	54,737	2,183	2,618	3,986	162,328	9,102	234,954

<b>Eight Year Average Fires</b>	<b>24,808</b>
<b>Eight Year Average Acres</b>	<b>527,184</b>

\*\*\*Averages are computed from data reported to NICC during the third reporting period in April\*\*\*

and

\*\*\*Changes in some agency YTD acres reflect more accurate mapping or reporting adjustments\*\*\*

**PRESCRIBED FIRES AND ACRES FOR APRIL 11<sup>TH</sup> – APRIL 13<sup>TH</sup>:**

AREA		BIA	BLM	FWS	NPS	ST/OT	USFS	TOTAL
Alaska	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Northwest	FIRES	1					4	5
	ACRES	147					484	631
Northern California	FIRES						1	1
	ACRES						2	2
Southern California	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Northern Rockies	FIRES	1						1
	ACRES	12						12
Eastern Great Basin	FIRES		1				1	2
	ACRES		30				60	90
Western Great Basin	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Southwest	FIRES	1					5	6
	ACRES	25					1,881	1,906
Rocky Mountain	FIRES	9	2	2			1	14
	ACRES	630	585	92			240	1,547
Eastern Area	FIRES			8	1	4	8	21
	ACRES			184	260	85	4,671	5,200
Southern Area	FIRES	6				4	5	15
	ACRES	102				3,192	4,069	7,363
TOTAL	FIRES	18	3	10	1	8	25	65
	ACRES	916	615	276	260	3,277	11,407	16,751

**PRESCRIBED FIRES AND ACRES YEAR-TO-DATE:**

AREA		BIA	BLM	FWS	NPS	ST/OT	USFS	TOTAL
Alaska	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Northwest	FIRES	8	73	144			58	283
	ACRES	679	8,750	4,639			2,473	16,541
Northern California	FIRES	2	8	5	10		67	92
	ACRES	31	119	16,865	499		3,857	21,371
Southern California	FIRES		2	1	2		62	67
	ACRES		25	37	12		7,829	7,903
Northern Rockies	FIRES	1	2				9	12
	ACRES	12	83				931	1,026
Eastern Great Basin	FIRES	1	7	3		4	3	18
	ACRES	18	401	300		121	62	902
Western Great Basin	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Southwest	FIRES	4	11	4	4		190	213
	ACRES	485	7,719	816	4,877		13,215	27,112
Rocky Mountain	FIRES	26	8	15	5	3	21	78
	ACRES	1,718	838	500	349	43	2,670	6,118
Eastern Area	FIRES	8		41	5	117	74	245
	ACRES	9,937		8,590	1,373	13,684	12,229	45,813
Southern Area	FIRES	48		185	32	5,621	921	6,807
	ACRES	7,582		65,261	48,638	372,312	727,130	1,220,923
TOTAL	FIRES	98	111	398	58	5,745	1,405	7,815
	ACRES	20,462	17,935	97,008	55,748	386,160	770,396	1,347,709

\*\*\* Changes in some agency YTD acres reflect more accurate mapping or reporting adjustments. \*\*\*

**WFU FIRES AND ACRES YEAR-TO-DATE:**

AREA		BIA	BLM	FWS	NPS	ST/OT	USFS	TOTAL
Alaska	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Northwest	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Northern California	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Southern California	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Northern Rockies	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Eastern Great Basin	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Western Great Basin	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Southwest	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Rocky Mountain	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Eastern Area	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Southern Area	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
TOTAL	FIRES	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

\*\*\* Changes in some agency YTD acres reflect more accurate mapping or reporting adjustments. \*\*\*

**RESOURCES STATUS: COMMITTED RESOURCES**

AREA	CREWS FED	CREWS ST/OT	ENGS FED	ENGS ST/OT	HELI FED	HELI ST/OT	AIRT FED	AIRT ST/OT	OVRHD FED	OVRHD ST/OT
Alaska										
Northwest										
Northern California										
Southern California									16	306
Northern Rockies										
Eastern Great Basin										
Western Great Basin									2	12
Southwest			5	5					12	
Rocky Mountain										
Eastern Area	1		11	24	5	8		1	72	
Southern Area	56	100		20		1			464	1435
Total	57	100	16	49	5	9	0	1	566	1753

**\*\*\* NATIONAL INTERAGENCY COORDINATION CENTER \*\*\***